



Publishing Company, No. 62 to 64 Park Row, New York.
Published by the Post-Office at New York as Second-Class Mail Matter.
Entered at the Post-Office at New York as Second-Class Mail Matter.

NO. 16,404.

VOLUME V FOR THE SUBWAY LOOP!

Against the foreword of many prophets, the project of an elevated loop to connect the East River bridges met a repulse yesterday at the special meeting of the Board of Estimate.

It remains for the Rapid-Transit Commissioners, to whom the business was referred, to turn the setback for the road on stilts into a complete victory for the subway.

Engineer Parsons' plans for an underground linking of the bridges, prepared three years ago, are available at once. To adopt them and then go ahead with the work of construction will please everybody. The Brooklyn contingent which has advocated the elevated makeshift is anxious chiefly that something be done and done quickly.

The Brooklyn Rapid-Transit Company may have to reinforce its rolling stock for subway service. But it needs to do that anyway in the public interest.

Really the connection planned by Mr. Parsons will be of economic benefit to the company. At present all trains have to be hauled empty one way morning and night. With the loop in service and storage room provided trains can be side-tracked in Manhattan and held ready for the evening rush-hour loading.

Surely the genius of the "one more chance" has worked faithfully for the Rapid Transit commission. Perhaps no body of men has opportunity so persistently repeated itself for the repairing of faults of delay. It ought to be unnecessary to urge the board to take quick advantage of the conditions now thrust upon it.

Incidentally it was noticed that the "overwhelming" Brooklyn sentiment in favor of the elevated loop was represented at yesterday's meeting by exactly three gentlemen—Mr. McKelway, Mr. Swanstrom and Mr. Blum.

OUTWITTING A STRENUOUS MAYOR.

Mayor Johnson, of Cleveland, has been conducting a strenuous campaign for three-cent car fares.

It is announced that the Cleveland Electric Railway Company will agree, in consideration of a renewal and extension of its franchises, to sell seven tickets for a quarter, give universal transfers, construct such lines as the city may direct and build at once high-speed lines where desired either by elevated or subway.

"The company has outwitted Mayor Johnson," soberly says the reporter who sends the news.

Blessings upon such an outwitting! And may New York's transit companies be driven with comfortable celerity to like sharp practice.

How the Cleveland corporation must chuckle over the million dollars a year which it will divert shrewdly from its own treasury into the savings of its patrons!

Let us try to imagine the exceeding joy of our own traction powers under such compulsion as should bring not alone the single fare to Coney Island, but transfers illimitable between surface, elevated and subway cars to and through all the boroughs.

"Here We Are Again!"

"Did You Think We Were Lost?"
By J. Campbell Cory.



The FIFTY GREATEST EVENTS in HISTORY
By Albert Payson Terhune

No. 3.—PYRRHUS: and the First Clash of the World Powers.

Pyrrhus, ruler of the Greek Kingdom of Epirus, hit on a plan, more daring than original. Born in 296 B.C., only five years after the death of his cousin, Alexander the Great, and while the latter's fame was fresh in the memory of living men, Pyrrhus resolved to follow Alexander's example and conquer the world. Unluckily for his success, he decided to work westward instead of east.

Now, from earliest days, power and progress have always rolled westward, and it has seldom gone well with the Easterner who has tried to check them. Pyrrhus did not realize this, but was destined to learn it.

Greece had for centuries been the foremost barrier of civilization against barbarism; of democracy against despotism. But of late a newer power had sprung up in the western world. This power was of the city and afterward the state of Rome. Rome originally was a small town covering but one or two of the seven hills over which it afterwards spread. It was at first ruled by kings who were elected by the people. Then, when these kings waxed tyrannical, the people deposed them and formed a republic, that reigned for 52 years. The little city grew, conquering all its neighbors and becoming at last the victim of many of Italy. In after years it was to rule the whole world. Already its brute strength, subtlety and moral superiority were making it famous. Greece, on the other hand, had passed the scene of her "Golden Age," and, thanks to luxury and civic dissensions, was on the wane.

It was in 280 B.C. that these two mighty powers of the civilized world first clashed, and that clash did much to mould the future trend of the earth's destiny. For Pyrrhus began his real attempt at universal conquest by crossing the Adriatic and declaring war on Rome. He did this on the pretense of helping the Greek cities in Southern Italy that resented Roman rule. With 20,000 men and a herd of trained war elephants Pyrrhus began his march against Rome. The sight of an elephant was unknown in Italy, and the great beast's presence struck mortal terror everywhere.

Rome summoned all her soldiers and vessels and met Pyrrhus at Heraclea, near the Gulf of Tarentum. It was a famous battle, and the Italians fought gallantly in defense of their land. But the elephants unnerved them and stampeded those horses. Their closest ranks could not withstand the irresistible charge of the mailed and Atlantic brutes. Rome's army was at length forced to retreat. But Pyrrhus' forces were so shattered and crippled by the battle that they could not pursue their advantage.

Then, when the Romans had won a victory that was costlier than a defeat, the term "a Pyrrhic victory" was in designating some worse than bare triumph.

The following year Pyrrhus again met and defeated the Roman legions at Asculum, but was once more so weakened by the conflict that he decided no gains from it. He fell back on Sicily, a Greek province, and there so offended by his ideas of despotism the people's love for liberty that he lost all chance of aid from them. In 276 B.C. he again invaded Italy, but by this time Rome was prepared against his coming. At a battle near Beneventum he was utterly routed and retreated to Epirus, never to return.

His dream of world empire had been a fiasco, simply because it was civilization and not barbarian that he had attacked. A beaten barbarian is a panic-stricken creature, ready to faint and grovel before his conqueror. An educated, civilized nation is never wholly beaten.

Alexander, by the very fame of his deeds, struck terror to the hearts of the Persians. The fame and armes of Pyrrhus, backed by the war elephants (creatures as terrible and unusual of aspect to the Italians of old as the dinosaur would be to modern men) could only temporarily baffle the Roman Republic. Where there is a true Republic there must be thought. Where there is thought there can be no real or permanent defeat.

Pyrrhus, a year or so after his retreat, was killed in a street fight in Argos, a woman dropping a roof tile on his head from a window as he was shooting his son. To die at the hand of a woman was in those days the direst possible disgrace for a warrior. So, for centuries thereafter, the fate of Pyrrhus was pointed out as a warning to would-be world conquerors.

Alexander, living at an earlier day and having all conditions in his favor, had for the time made himself master of the known world. But he had not attacked a foe more civilized than himself. He had momentarily bound the destiny of the earth to his whim. But at his death the bonds had flown asunder. From this to time in history some one man has risen above his fellows, dominated them and bent them to his will. But only momentarily.

There can be no one man or one nation rule. The only permanent ruler, as all history shows in countless instances, is the free Will of the People.

THE BETRAYAL by D. PHILLIPS OPPENHEIM

Author of "A Master of History," "Mysterious Mr. Wilson," "The Mystery of Yellow Creek," "The Master Minotaur," "Ains, the Adventurer," "Millionaires of Yesterday," "The Traitor," "The Man and His Kingdom," &c.

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CHAPTER XXXII.—THE DUKE'S BETRAYAL.

THE DUKE'S MESSAGE.

The Duke's Message.

T was late, but I felt that I must see Ray. I went to his house, not expecting to find him there. I was about to knock, but the sound, such as it was, of an abrupt knocking, was of course no signal of recognition. He was in his study, an abrupt entrance, and I entered. His pipe was between his teeth and the tobacco smoke hung about him in little wisps.

"Well, he isn't gruff; what do you want of me? I am busy, though, to the point."

"I have come to ask your advice," I said. "I am not that I needn't say, my past."

"My father is in London. I have seen and spoken with him in that woman's eyes."

"And you have given him to a guide place, perhaps."

"Ray was silent for a moment. Then he looked at me keenly.

"Do you want to give it up?" he asked.

"No," I answered. "But do you suppose Lord Cheshford and the others would be willing for me to continue under the circumstances?"

"I don't know," he said. "The Duke would not, I am sure."

"What else can I do?" I asked.

"I don't know," he answered shortly. "It requires some skill, and I am not good at it. You should have come to me in the morning."

"That was all the consolation I had from Col. Moxon Ray."

At 6 o'clock the next morning the Duke came in to the study where I was already at work. He was looking even more particularly trim and alert than the day before. His pipe was in his mouth and his fingers clasped behind his back.

"His greeting was almost a rebuke. His greeting was almost a rebuke."

"What is this about your resignation, D'Avolio?" he said.

"I do not wish to resign, sir," I answered. "I have explained certain circumstances to Col. Ray which seemed to put him into my position, and I have personally made myself responsible for me."

"The Duke's answer was, "The responsibility is mine."

"The responsibility is mine," I said. "Your unfortunate father is dead, and I am not responsible for him."

"You're right," the Duke answered. "The responsibility is mine."

"I am glad to hear that, sir," I said. "I am less than a mile from home, and I am not responsible for me."

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